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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION ON BUSH ADMINISTRATION, OCTOBER 4,
2005

¶1. Editorial in Tegucigalpa-based moderate daily "El Heraldo" on 10/3 titled "The Bush Government." "Now that President Bush has successfully had his nominee for Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, John Roberts, approved by Congress, he stands before the growing ocean of difficulties he is going through in his second term."

"The human, diplomatic, and financial costs of the illegal and immoral war in Iraq, the photographs of the atrocities committed by the U.S. military against Iraqi prisoners, the demonstrations in favor of U.S. withdrawal, the embarrassment at the management of the disaster caused by Hurricane Katrina and the allegations of corruption in handling the resources for Hurricane victims, the implication of their involvement in criminal acts, the fall of Bush's popularity and the loss of influence in Latin America are some of the problems that plague the White House"

"The errors of the Bush administration are many more, but they are still kept secret thanks to the silence of the big media conglomerates and the level of influence that the U.S. has in international organizations, including the U.N., which is exemplified in the fact that it has agreed to carry out an investigation into the disappearances that happened during the Saddam Hussein regime, but no investigations will be made in regard to the murders committed by the forces occupying Iraq, nor for the hundreds of individuals who find themselves in a legal limbo and in subhuman conditions in Guantanamo, Afghanistan, and Iraq."

"The double-talk of the U.S. government in regard to liberty, democracy, protection of human rights, and terrorism, continues: the only nations considered democratic are those ruled by governments obedient to their mandates, and which fear their military, economic and political power."

"The Bush administration, with its popularity at an all-time low, must conduct a balancing act of epic proportions to come out on top again with its internal and external agenda."

Williard